

Town of Concrete Economic Development Commission
45672 Main Street
P.O. Box 39
Concrete, WA 98237
360.853.8401
info@concretewa.gov

Town of Concrete
Economic Development Commission

Meeting Agenda

June 14, 2023 - 6 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Old Business
 - i. Vision Statement Discussion
 - ii. Sedro-Woolley Meeting Update
 - iii. Trails
5. New Business
6. Other Business
7. Announcements - Next Workshop – July 12 - 6pm
8. Adjournment

**Economic
Development
Commission Members**

Ger van den Engh

Karla Massingale

Dinah Kinney-Chair
Pro-tem

Anne Bussiere - Chair

Wiley Moore

John Boggs

Sharon Riels

Town Council Liaison

Stephanie Semro

**Town of Concrete
Economic Development Commission Workshop
May 10, 2023**

Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Chair Anne Bussiere led the gallery in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Economic Commission Members: Ger Ban den Engh, Dinah Kinney, Anne Bussiere, Wiley Moore (via Zoom at 6:10 p.m.) and John Boggs.

Karla Massingale and Sharon Riels were absent.

Liaison: Stephanie Semro.

Audience Members Signed In: None.

Old Business: Vision Statement Discussion: Anne stated that she believed at the last meeting that they had agreed to use the vision statement that was completed previously and to just update it. Ger stated that is not in favor of that and believes the vision statement should more explanatory as to what their roles are and what they are trying to accomplish. Anne stated a vision statement should be one or two paragraphs. Ger stated he disagrees. Dinah stated that she agrees with Anne and the previous statement could be used and just updated. Ger stated the current statement is around 10 years old and does not relate to the goals now. He stated that not much has been done with economic development during that time. He stated he will continue to work on it. He also passed out information on what the definition of economic development is. Discussion ensued on the difference between the visioning statement and actual items within the plan itself.

Discussion ensued on what to present to council and when to get their feedback on certain items. It was stated that ideas and projects need to be written down with the research and information on how to accomplish those.

John stated when this group started meeting again, there were several items that certain people were passionate about. He stated he believes those are the ideas and projects that should be researched by each person and then put into the plan with details on how to accomplish those. He stated this would give everyone a job to do and something to work on.

Dinah stated she would like to have more interaction between the mayor, council, and this commission. She stated it would be good to know what the council and mayor envision so this group is not working on certain items that the council or mayor may not agree with. She stated it would be good to know if the mayor and council agree with their ideas and if they agree that it is something that could be accomplished.

Mayor Reed stated that she agrees that the ideas, goals, and projects need to be listed and need to come with the research and detailed path on how to complete them. She stated it should also include funding options, if needed and then brought to council.

New Business: Anne stated her, and Dinah have met with the mayor to discuss education programs on employment. She stated a program like this could assist high school students or other adults on small things like, how to greet people, how to dress and speak appropriately and other work-related behavior. Dinah stated that partnerships with the chamber and school would be good as well. Stephanie stated that Community Action also offers programs like this and she believes the library does too, so those could be others to include in the partnership. John stated that he had contacted one of the teachers at the school who teaches these types of classes and he was going to provide the information on his lesson plans and other information, but he is now on a leave of absence and he has not yet received that information. Dinah stated that contacting job corps would also be a good idea.

Anne stated she believes an easy project would be to redo the sign on the highway so that is more readable. She stated maybe it could be more colorful and just direct people off the highway onto Main Street. It was also stated that adding electric car charging stations at Bear Square would also be a good idea. Ger stated, getting people onto Main Street is great, but you must have something for them to do once they get here. Discussion ensued on the places to eat, the museum walking tour, the PSE trail that is coming, live music options and other activities available. Discussion ensued on other things that could be done in town and installing the proper signage, so people know what is available. Discussion also ensued on trail access and trying to get connectors of some kind to other existing trails such the Pacific Northwest Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail.

Anne stated that she will do the research on the charging stations. Stephanie stated she believes there is funding out there for these.

Ger discussed green cities. Discussion ensued on green cities and if having recycling in town would be an option.

Anne asked if they want to try and schedule a workshop with the council, invite council members to a meeting or how do they want to get input. John stated, an email could be sent out to each of the council members requesting their feedback. Ger stated he believes they should get input from the Chamber as well.

Discussion ensued on park use, the swap meet and the Saturday Market.

John stated that when the Historical Preservation and Landmarks Commission (HPLC) starts up in June that one of their main focuses will be on putting together the historical properties list.

It was stated that Karla will be resigning. It was stated that something in writing stating this is needed. John stated that Sharon may be resigning as well, since she joined the HPLC as well.

Other Business: None.

Announcements: Next workshop will be June 14 at 6pm.

Adjournment: Anne Bussiere made a motion for adjournment at 7:10 p.m. John Boggs seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Anne Bussiere, Chair

Attest: Dinah Kinney, Chair pro-tem

DRAFT